



SS. THOMAS MORE AND JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH, ACHIMOTA.

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

23RD JUNE, 2024: TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“GOD, OUR FIRST POINT OF CONTACT IN ALL SITUATIONS.”**

Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah (*Parish Priest*) 020-8592020
Rev. Fr. Clement Quagraine (Assistant Priest) 024-8329194

St. Thomas More Catholic Church - 030-3931800
SS. Thomas More and John Fisher Catholic Church - 030-3939862/
030-2436199

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11: The Lord answers Job's complaints.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31
O GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD; HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17: Those in Christ are a new creation.

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:35-41: Jesus calms the storm.

REFLECTION

Beloved in Christ, there are times when we feel confident in handling every situation, especially when we are well-equipped in that field. As a result, we may think we don't need to seek God's guidance. We can be like the disciples in today's Gospel, who, being professional fishermen, believed they could manage the great storm of winds and waves that beat against their boat. They didn't seek help from Christ, who was with them, because He was a carpenter's son, not a fisherman. However, when situations became overwhelming, they turned to God, worried and asking, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" Though God will never neglect us when we call upon Him in times of trouble, just as Christ calmed the great storm, God should not be our last resort. Instead, He should always be our first point of call in every situation.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 24TH JUNE, 2024 Nativity of John the Baptist (S) Is 40:1-6 Ps 139:1-3,13-15 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66,50	Tue 25TH JUNE, 2024 2Kgs 19:9b-11,14-21,31a,36 Ps 48:2-4,10-11 Mt 7:6,12-14
Wed 26TH JUNE, 2024 2Kgs 22:8-13;23:1-3 Ps 119:33-37,40 Mt 7:15-20	Thurs 27TH JUNE, 2024 2Kgs 24:8-17 Ps 79:1-5,8-9 Mt 7:21-29
Fri 28TH JUNE, 2024 St. Irenaeus 2Kgs 25:1-12 Ps 137:1-6 Mt 8:1-4	Sat 29TH JUNE, 2024 Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles (S) Acts 12:1-11 Ps 34:2-9 2Tim 4:6-8,17-18 Mt 16:13-19

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 30:2,4,5-6,11,12,13
Second Reading	2Cor 8:7,9,13-15
Gospel	Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24,35b-43

Mass Schedule for Next Sunday

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
First Mass: 7.00 am	First Mass: 6.30 am
Second Mass: 9.30 am	Second Mass: 9.30 am



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

WHY IS CONFIRMATION IMPORTANT? WHAT EFFECT DOES IT HAVE ON ME?

Confirmation is the third sacrament of initiation and serves to "confirm" a baptized person in their faith. Confirmation deepens our baptismal life and calls us to be missionary witnesses of Jesus Christ in our families, neighborhoods, society, and the world. Through Confirmation, our personal relationship with Christ is strengthened. We receive the message of faith in a deeper and more intensive manner with great emphasis given to the person of Jesus Christ, who asked the Father to give the Holy Spirit to the Church to build up the community in loving service.

The Holy Spirit bestows seven gifts—wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the Lord—to assist us in our mission and witness. The impact of these gifts accompanies us in the various stages of our spiritual development.

As confirmed, we walk with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Wisdom enables us to see the world from God's viewpoint, which can help us come to grasp the purpose and plan of God. It grants us a long-range view of history, examining the present in the light of the past and the mystery of the future. It saves us from the illusion that the spirit of the times is our only guide. The Spirit's gift of knowledge directs us to a contemplation, or thoughtful reflection, of the mystery of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as well as of the mysteries of the Catholic faith. We are drawn to meditative prayer, where we allow God to lead us while we rest patiently in the divine presence.

The gift of understanding stimulates us to work on knowing ourselves as part of our growth in knowing God. It is what St. Augustine meant when he prayed, "That I may know You, may I know myself." When the Spirit pours fortitude or courage into our hearts, we can trust that we will be prepared to stand up for Christ and the Gospel when challenged. As the gift of counsel or right judgment grows in us, we can sense the quiet teaching that the Spirit gives us about our moral lives and the training of our consciences.

The gift of piety or reverence is an act of respect for the Father who created us, for Jesus who saved us, and for the Spirit who is sanctifying us. We learn reverence for God and people from our parents and others who train us in virtue. The Spirit fills us with this gift at liturgy, which is a masterful school of reverence, as well as through popular devotions and piety.

Finally, the gift of fear of the Lord or wonder and awe in God's presence can infuse honesty into our relationship with God, a frankness that places us in awe before the majesty of God. Yet the gift also imparts an attitude of grateful wonder that God loves us and that we can share in his life.

When we are responsive to the grace of Confirmation and the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, we begin to bear the fruits of the Spirit. The tradition of the Church names twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity (cf. CCC, no. 1832; Gal 5:22).

PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR

Almighty and Merciful Father, we thank you for our faith and for the gift of our church community. We thank you for how far you have brought us as a parish. You have been our refuge in times past and our hope for years to come.

We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

For the Court of Justice, we pray that you will give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of you alone. May they not yield to deceit and acts of bribery and corruption but uphold the truth and let justice prevail.

May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our payer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

- St. Thomas More..... Pray for us
- St. John Fisher..... Pray for us
- All you Angels and Saints Pray for us

HAPPY FEAST DAY

Happy Feast Day

Dear Parishioners
As we reminisce about the past and embrace the great achievements of our present, may God grant grace through the intercession of SS. Thomas More and John Fisher, to forge ahead for a brighter future.

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THIS WEEK SOLEMNITIES

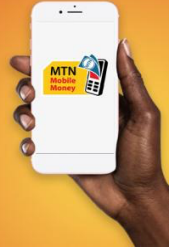
➤ **MONDAY 24TH JUNE, 2024: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST. WE SHALL HAVE MORNING MASS AT SJF AT 6.15 AM, AND EVENING MASS AT STM AT 7.00 PM.**

➤ **SATURDAY 29TH JUNE, 2024: THE SOLEMNITY OF SS. PETER AND PAUL. WE SHALL MORNING MASSES AT BOTH STM & SJF AT 7.00 AM.**



How to make all church statutory payments through MTN momo
Ss Thomas more & John Fisher
059 585 0922

Dial *170#
Select Option 2
Select Option 1
Enter Merchant ID: **247834**
Enter Amt
Enter Reference: eg. *Dues*
Enter your Momo pin
Send



MOTIVATION

HE DOESN'T INSULT ME. SHORT STORY WITH MORAL

On one occasion, a friend visited a close family tire, and when the man arrived at the house, he saw a small child playing with his in the garden of the house. The man asked the child: I see you are happy with the dog.

Child: Yes, I love him very much; I play with him, and he plays with me.

Man: Do you love this dog more than your family? Child: Yes, absolutely.

Man: Do you like the dog more than your schoolmates? Child: Yes, he does not insult me, he does not tell me you are fat but my schoolmates tell me that, and they always insult me.

This little boy used to spend all his time with his dog because he found love and mercy in this animal, and he felt safe in the presence of his dog. Which he did not feel among his schoolmates and his family members.

Moral: Dear reader, many hearts need your love, if you cannot offer them anything, at least do not hurt their feelings with your deeds and words

YOUTH CORNER

KPEHE DEANERY LITERACY CHALLENGE!

Are you between the ages of 10 and 15 years? Here's an opportunity to showcase your creative writing skills in the Kpehe Deanery Essay writing competition.

Topic: "As this year has been declared the year of children, write an essay with five (5) points on how you think the church can help children seek Christ in this modern era".

- Your essay should be 250 words long
- Script must be handwritten
- Script must be endorsed by Parent/ Guardian and your Parish Priest or Priest in charge.
- Add your full contact details
- All essays must be submitted to your PYC executives on or before Sunday, June 23, 2024. Don't miss out!

YOUTH CONGRESS: The catholic archdiocese of Accra's youth congress comes off on this Saturday 29th of June at Elwak sports stadium. All interested youth who want to attend the Congress should register at the Church offices or any of the PYC Executives.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA
YOUTH OFFICE + AADCYC



Present & Connected Youth Congress 2024 - Prayer

Our compassionate and loving Father, we express gratitude for the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra, its Shepherd, Priests, and faithful, especially the youth. As we gather for the youth congress, "Present & Connected 2024," we humbly invite the Holy Spirit to ignite a passionate zeal within us for serving You.

Grant us the fervour to deepen our faith through meaningful dialogue with Church leaders. Fill our hearts with love, fostering unity within our community and strengthening our devotion to Jesus Christ and His Church. Help us recognize ourselves as living gifts and actively participate in the Church's mission today.

Guide us, Lord Jesus, to fully engage and serve joyfully, inspiring us to embody the Church's mission by reaching out in love and service to those around us, reflecting Your face through our actions and words.

Empower us to be the hands, hearts, and voice of Your mission, enriching our communities and reflecting Your light and love in all we do. May this congress be a continual journey towards You, strengthening our unity and renewing our commitment to the vibrant and ongoing mission of the Church. Amen.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Martin De Porres, pray for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are reminded and encouraged to pay our Harvest levy of GH¢100 per Adult, GH¢50 per working Youth and GH¢20 per child. Those in arrears of Harvest Levy, and pledges are entreated to redeem them and also fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund). Those who have pledged for the Legacy of Hope Project are also reminded and entreated to redeem them.

Marriage Banns:

2ND Publication between **Marcus Egali Senyasu** (son of Martin Senyasu & Helen Senyasu) And **Priscilla Agyarewaa Frempong** (daughter of Godfred Frempong & Agatha Danquah)

3RD Publication between **Kofi Agyapong Sarpong**, (son of Michael Dwomor Sarpong and Philomina Dwomor Sarpong) And **Francisca Mintah-Kwarteng** (daughter of Prince Obour-Mintah and Agnes Obour-Mintah). Kindly inform the Parish Priest in of any impediment why these two should not be joined in Holy Matrimony as soon as possible.

Funeral Arrangements

The Funeral Details of the Late **Mad. Veronica Abia Dzisenu (Cofie)** of the Kissehman Community is as follows:

- i. **Friday 28th June, 2024:** Family Gathering at Kissehman Asco's House.
- ii. **Saturday 29th June, 2024:** Burial Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Achimota at 8.00 am. Dress Code: Black & White.
- iii. **Sunday 30th June, 2024:** Thanksgiving Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Achimota at 7.00 am. Dress Code: All White.

The Funeral Arrangement of Paa John Gaveh Ahiabile, father of Mr. Justice Gaveh of the Amalgamated Community is as follows:

- i. **Friday, 26th July, 2024:** Family vigil at his residence, House No AN/6, Jericho Road, Valco Flats Down, Ashaiman.
- ii. **Saturday, 27th July, 2024:** Filing past at Tema Joint Church, Community 7, from 6.30 am and Burial Service at 8.00am.. Funeral rites: at Tema Joint Church grounds, Community 7
- iii. **Sunday, 28th July, 2024:** Thanksgiving Service, A.M.E. Zion Church, Bethel Society, Ashaiman at 9.00 am. All are cordially and respectfully invited to mourn with us.

PASTORAL CARE

Sacrament of Confession: Every Saturday from 5.00pm at SJF and from 6.30pm at STM.

Sacrament of Baptism of Infants: *First Saturday of every month. Please call at the Church's office for a baptismal form. Instructions: Thursday preceding the date for baptism @ 5pm @ STM.*

Visitation to the Sick and Aged: *Thursdays at 7.00 am. Contact the office if you have a sick or aged Person(s) to be visited.*

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least six months to a year with the priests. The couple or one of them must be a registered member of the Church for at least 6 months.

Consultation of Priests: (STM) Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (In the Evenings) Time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm. **(SJF) Wednesdays at 5:00pm.** In case of an emergency, call on the Priest.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday: 9am -1pm & 2 pm - 5pm: and Sunday: 9 am - 1.30pm

SLOGAN: Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Besohwɛ!
Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Justice and Truth!!
Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Pray for us!

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING
WITH US.
HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS MORE

WEEKDAYS	STM JUNE WEEK1	STM JUNE WEEK2	STM JUNE WEEK3
SUNDAY	1124.00	-----	20.00
MONDAY	1919.50	30.00	180.00
TUESDAY	1965.50	50.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	1857.00	-----	-----
THURSDAY	1533.20	-----	-----
FRIDAY	1711.70	-----	-----
SATURDAY	1365.00	-----	200.00
JUNE BORN	240.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	11415.90	80.00	400.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JUNE WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2498.50
MEN & WOMEN COLLECTION	2197.40
TITHE	570.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	500.00
TOTAL	5765.90

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF JUNE WEEK1	SJF JUNE WEEK2	SJF JUNE WEEK3
SUNDAY	2012.20	-----	-----
MONDAY	3232.50	1000+\$100	150.00
TUESDAY	1012.00	1000.00	70.00
WEDNESDAY	1127.00	550.00	100.00
THURSDAY	3573.00	100.00	-----
FRIDAY	2212.50	80.00	-----
SATURDAY	1714.00	-----	30.00
JUNE BORN	462.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	15345.20	4232.00	350.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF JUNE WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	5505.80
MEN & WOMEN COLLECTION	5734.60
TITHE	1040.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	450.00
TOTAL	12730.40

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA
YOUTH OFFICE + AACDC



YOUTH CONGRESS

26th - 29th June, 2024

Why a Youth Congress?

To cultivate an active and collaborative youth ministry.

Give youth opportunities to explore and deepen faith, engage in meaningful dialogue with Church leadership

Foster community, a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

What does it mean to be Present & Connected?

The Youth are Present
Available, Gift & Today

The Youth are Connected
In Christ, our communities and our shared Catholic faith

How do I participate?

Be part of the local/parish dialogue sessions.

Be present and actively participate in the grand durbar.

Promote on social media @rcyouthaccra

Roadmap

LAUNCH - APRIL, 2024
PARISH DISCUSSION - MAY, '24
DELEGATES SESSIONS 26-28TH JUN, '24
GRAND DURBAR & CLIMAX 29TH JUNE, '24



For sponsorship & info: Dr. Linus +233 26 232 6483 / Youth Director +233 20 851 3145
X @rcyouthaccra | #present&connected #beConnected #bePresent #beAgift



KPEHE DEANERY CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL

presents

Liferacy Challenge



Activities:

Sunday, 19th May, 2024
LAUNCHING
All Parishes during Mass

are you between the ages of:

Essay Competition: 10 - 15 years

As this year has been declared the year of children, write an essay with five (5) points on how you think the church can help children seek Christ in this modern era.

Your essay should be 250 words long.

• Script must be in your own handwriting
• Script must be endorsed by a Parent/ Guardian and your Parish Priest

• Add your full contact details
All essays should be submitted to your PYC executives

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION
SATURDAY, 23RD JUNE, 2024

7 - 13 years

Deanery Children's Quiz: Areas of Study

- The Gospel of St. Mark
- Catholic Doctrine
- Current Affairs

Date: SATURDAY, 20TH JULY, 2024
Venue: ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH, ATOMIC
Time: 7:00AM

FOR ENQUIRIES AND SUPPORT:
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